

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A method for producing a show in a ~~video~~ production environment having at least one processing unit in communications with a plurality of ~~video~~ production devices, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) receiving a show rundown comprising a plurality of ~~news~~ story files ~~selected from a story bin~~; and
 - (b) converting said show rundown into broadcast instructions formatted for being that, when executed, enable the transmitting of one or more commands to control the plurality of production devices to thereby produce the show, wherein said transmitting includes transmitting one or more commands to at least one of a camera, a robotic pan/tilt head, an audio mixer device, a graphics device, teleprompting means, and a special effects device on an automated video production system.
2. (currently amended) A method of claim 1, wherein ~~each of said news story files includes a script formatted for a teleprompting means and graphic effects to be executed on said automated video production means~~ step (a) comprises receiving at least one story file that includes a script or graphic effects, wherein step (b) comprises converting the at least one story file into executable broadcast instructions for enabling the transmitting of at least one command to said teleprompting means to display said script during production of the show, or at least one command to a production device to integrate the graphic effects with video associated with the at least one story file during production of the show.

3. (original) A method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
 - (c) monitoring inter-file activity and synchronizing said show rundown with said broadcast instructions.
 4. (currently amended) A method of claim 3, wherein said step (c) further comprises the step of:
 - (i) periodically polling said show rundown to detect inter-file modifications, including changes within said ~~news-story-file~~ story files or the addition or deletion of ~~news-stories~~ story files to said show rundown.
 5. (currently amended) A method of claim 4, wherein said step (c) further comprises the step of:
 - (ii) updating said broadcast instructions with said inter-file modifications to implement said ~~synchronization~~ synchronizing.
 6. (currently amended) A method of claim 5, wherein said step (ii) further comprises the step of:
 - (A) updating only an unexecuted portion of said broadcast instructions.
 7. (original) A method of claim 6, wherein said step (ii) further comprises the step of:
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(B) adjusting said unexecuted broadcast instructions such that a total execution time for said broadcast instructions does not exceed a predetermined time.

8. (currently amended) A method of claim 3, wherein said step (c) ~~further~~ comprises the step of:

updating said broadcast instructions in real time with inter-file modifications, including changes within said ~~news-story file~~ story files or the addition or deletion of ~~news-stories~~ story files to said show rundown.

9. (currently amended) A method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

(c) associating [a] one or more broadcast element [file] files with each ~~news~~ story file of said plurality of ~~news~~ story files to link a group of ~~video~~ production commands to each ~~news~~ story file.

10. (currently amended) A method of claim 9, wherein said step (b) ~~further~~ comprises the step of:

(i) populating a broadcast instructions time sheet with ~~video~~ production icons ~~formatted to instruct the automated video production system to execute video production that, when activated, execute corresponding broadcast instructions to enable said transmitting of one or more~~ commands, wherein a group of ~~video~~ production icons is associated with a broadcast element file.

11. (currently amended) A system for producing a show in a ~~video~~ production environment having at least one processing unit in communications with a plurality of ~~video~~ production devices, comprising:

means for receiving a show rundown comprising a plurality of ~~news~~ story files ~~selected from a story bin~~; and

means for converting said show rundown into broadcast instructions ~~formatted for being that, when executed, enable the transmitting of one or more~~ commands to control the plurality of production devices to thereby produce the show, wherein the plurality of production devices include at least one of a camera, a robotic pan/tilt head, an audio mixer device, a graphics device, teleprompting means, and a special effects device ~~on an automated video production means.~~

12. (currently amended) A system of claim 11, further comprising:

means for monitoring inter-file activity and synchronizing said show rundown with said broadcast instructions.

13. (currently amended) A computer program product comprising a computer useable medium having computer readable program code means ~~embedded in said medium~~ stored therein for causing ~~an application program to execute on~~ a computer used to produce a show in a ~~video~~ production environment having at least ~~one processing unit in communications with~~ a plurality of ~~video~~ production devices, said computer readable program code means comprising:

a first computer readable program code means for ~~receiving~~ enabling the computer to receive a show rundown comprising a plurality of news story files ~~selected from a story bin~~; and

a second computer readable program code means for ~~converting~~ enabling the computer to convert said show rundown into broadcast instructions ~~formatted for being that, when executed, enable the transmitting of one or more commands to control the plurality of production devices to thereby produce the show, wherein the plurality of production devices include at least one of a camera, a robotic pan/tilt head, an audio mixer device, a graphics device, teleprompting means, and a special effects device on an automated video production means.~~

14. (currently amended) A computer program product according to claim 13, further comprising:

a third computer readable program code means for ~~monitoring~~ enabling the computer to monitor inter-file activity and ~~synchronizing~~ synchronize said show rundown with said broadcast instructions.